

# Lexington Intelligencer.

LEXINGTON, LAFAYETTE COUNTY, MISSOURI, SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1901.

No. 30

## TE BOOKS OPEN

Will Have a Look at Missouri's Public Ledger.

NO GIVES RIGHT TO ALL.

Star Will Carry Out Globe-Democrat's Bald-Faced Bluff.

Several years past the St. Louis Democrat has been raising a howl about democratic rule in Missouri, making charges that hung in the wind and outraged decency. Joe Flory was running around the state as the candidate of the clean party for governor, he, too, the claim that he should be for the reason that democratic needed an overhauling. Finally Joe Dockery became incensed to an extent at the prevaricating of the Globe-Democrat that he made a challenge to the editor of that paper to make an investigation, offering every possible assistance that the could bring to bear. The consequence was that instead of accepting Governor's challenge in a manly way the managers of the St. Louis Democrat, at 10 p. m. paid no attention to the challenge but kept up a running fire of abuse that was as truthless as it was spiteful of the respect of decent men. Now comes the St. Louis Star, a republican newspaper, and the governor if the same courtesy be extended to that paper as was extended to the G. D., to which Mr. Flory responded as follows:

Editor of the St. Louis Star, St. Louis, Mo.  
August 21, 1901.—Dear Sir: I have honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, in which you state that as the Globe-Democrat has seen fit to decline the invitation to examine the financial affairs of the state, you accept the invitation on behalf of the St. Louis

extending this invitation to the Globe-Democrat I expressly stated that I applied to any one who desired to examine the books, and I shall be glad to have you undertake the work which the Globe-Democrat has declined.

After waiting a reasonable time for the Globe-Democrat to accept the invitation to examine the books, and that failing to do so, I requested the auditor to prepare a complete list of the receipts and disbursements of all state moneys handled during the years of democratic control in this state. The clerical force of the auditor's office has had its time completely taken up with the work incident to the state board of equalization and other regular duties. The auditor desires me that as soon as the force is freed of the stress of this important exhibit will be prepared.

You will need the co-operation, to the extent, of the office force in making a thorough examination of all accounts. I beg to state that the office force of the auditor's department will be at your disposal as soon as the work referred to is completed, which will be in a few days.

The invitation heretofore extended to the Globe-Democrat is now extended to you.

I desire to state further in answer to your letter: First, that there will be no limitation to the proposed examination as to its time or scope; second, that you can rely upon the aid and co-operation of all the state officials whom I think can serve you in accomplishing the most thorough investigation.

As I stated in my letter to the Globe-Democrat, if there has been any abuse of the public funds, or dishonesty prac-

ticed in any of the departments, the people ought to know it.

It there has been, as I assert, an honest accounting of the public moneys on the part of the state officials, it is libelous upon the good name of the state for any newspaper to charge the contrary. Very truly yours,

A. M. DOCKERY,  
Governor.

## JOHNSON IN MISSOURI.

Comes Up From New Orleans to See Friends.

Joe P. Johnson, perhaps the best known man who ever figured in Missouri politics and who has managed to hold on to a job in the postoffice department for many years under the adverse conditions of being a rabid democrat, spent Monday in St. Louis and then came on to his old home in Johnson county to take his mother to the exposition at Buffalo. He has been stationed at New Orleans for several years and it has been some time since he paid Missouri a visit. Johnson is always made welcome in his native state and upon his arrival at St. Louis the Republic printed a lengthy interview with him, making it a first page feature. A portion of the interview which sounds as much like Joe as possible for words to portray an individual and which will be found interesting to Missourians, is appended:

"Your barber is not always much of a subject to talk about," said the Major at the Laclede Hotel, "but I have in my mind a story of my barber that is as good as anything that the romancers of this time have written. You will remember that Ingalls once wrote a sonnet on opportunity, in which he made it say:

"If I am not mistaken, Shakespeare hit off the same idea in other words years before. And it is so. Well, my barber in New Orleans had a brother living at Galveston at the time of the famous storm there. The day after that great tragedy I started for the scene. My barber asked me to see if I could find the missing brother. I had no trouble in doing so. He had gone to Beaumont, with his family, where he set up a tent on a piece of ground several miles from the town, there being no accommodations in the place. At my suggestion the barber went over to Beaumont to look after his stricken relatives.

Incidentally, he learned that the piece of land on which they had taken refuge might be had for \$300. A family council was arranged, and it was decided that it would be better to go back to Galveston after things had become somewhat settled.

"And what of that?" I asked my barber, somewhat impatiently.

"Well," he answered, and the tears came into his eyes. "Most of the land was on top of what is now known as Spindle-Top Hill."

"I have observed," continued Major Johnson, "that my friend Walter Stevens is the secretary of the World's Fair organization. I met Stephens at Galveston soon after the flood. I had previously met him in St. Louis, Washington, Chicago, New Orleans, Boston, New York, Omaha, Kansas City and at other points. He can work a longer number of hours without rest than any man I have ever known. Twenty hours on a stretch is as easy as falling off a log.

"You have not heard the latest joke on Charley Vandiver of the Keyesville Courier, have you?" the Major went on. "It happened at New Orleans while the Missouri editors were down there not long ago. Several of the boys had asked to be taken to a place that is famous for the beautifully-colored pouasse cafes. On the way there Vandiver somehow got into his head that we were about to see the manufacture of a gin fizz. After the barman had made the coffee pushers most carefully, Charley held his up to the light, and, after admiring its rainbow hues for awhile, he said:

"Well, I've often heard of your gin fixers, but that's the first one I ever saw."

The camp is indeed grateful for the beautiful banner and tenders to you its most heartfelt thanks. Its stars and bars call up many thrilling memories, heroic actions and lasting friendships. Your kindness and generosity in sending it remind us that you still feel a deep interest in the welfare of your comrades in this county. Long will that flag be kept by the camp and your memory cherished. Whenever, in the future, the camp appears in marching order that flag shall guide the tottering steps of its members as through the smoke and flame of battle in days of yore.

## THE LOST CAUSE.

War Incidents Bright in Memory of Those Who Fought.

WEST VIRGINIA AND MISSOURI

Homes of Men Belonging to Same Company of Confederate Veterans.

Several weeks ago Captain Frank Thornton, Lafayette county's clever and accommodating clerk, received a letter from his old home in West Virginia bringing the news that those with whom he soldiered in the confederate army had instituted a camp of veterans at Summerville and had christened it Camp Thornton. The letter of course brought up most pleasant reminiscences, taking the captain back to his boyhood home and its innumerable pleasant and never to be forgotten surroundings. Love for his comrades inspired him to remember them in a substantial way, and he forwarded to them a beautiful silken banner bearing the stars and bars to be used as the guidon for the new camp. In response Captain Thornton is now in receipt of the following letter which he naturally prizes very highly and of



CAPT. FRANK THORNTON.

course will keep sacred among the family relics to be handed down to future generations:

Capt. Frank Thornton, Lexington, Missouri.

DEAR COMRADE:—At a meeting of Camp Thornton, United Confederate Veterans, held in Summerville, Nicholas county, West Virginia, this day, the beautiful silk confederate flag sent by you as a gift was presented to the camp, and the undersigned appointed a committee to return the thanks of the camp to you for the same. In discharging this duty allow us to say that there were those present at the meeting who had passed through the war in the same company and regiment with you. The enthusiasm of those present was greatly stirred by one of your comrades who told of you and of your record as a soldier from orderly sergeant to captain of your company and commanding officer of your regiment.

The camp is indeed grateful for the beautiful banner and tenders to you its most heartfelt thanks. Its stars and bars call up many thrilling memories, heroic actions and lasting friendships. Your kindness and generosity in sending it remind us that you still feel a deep interest in the welfare of your comrades in this county. Long will that flag be kept by the camp and your memory cherished. Whenever, in the future, the camp appears in marching order that flag shall guide the tottering steps of its members as through the smoke and flame of battle in days of yore.

when your flashing sword so often led your comrades. With sentiments of the highest personal regard, we remain most truly your comrades,

R. A. KINCAID,  
F. G. SHACKELFORD,  
SAM'L P. SCHINDEL,  
JOHN A. PRESTON,  
Committee.

Summerville, W. Va., Aug. 15, 1901.

Capt. Thornton enlisted in the confederate army at the beginning of hostilities and went out in a company which was organized by himself and his brother, George W. Thornton, now of Kansas City. The latter was made a first lieutenant and the former an orderly sergeant. Lieutenant Thornton, however, was disabled in the first engagement in which he took part and was forced to retire from the service. Captain Thornton soon earned the rank he now carries and with two exceptions never left his command during the entire period of that bloody internecine strife. Those two periods were when he was a prisoner in the hands of the federals. He was captured at Winchester September 19, 1863, when Early was defeated and Captain Thornton's entire command was nearly lost. He escaped from the prison in thirty days and rejoined his comrades in grey and continued to battle for the south's rights. He was captured again in March, 1864, near Harper's Ferry, but only remained in the "pen" three days.

Captain Thornton came to Missouri soon after the war closed and has been a resident of Lafayette county since 1868. He is now serving his first term as county clerk to the entire satisfaction of those who elected him and to the citizens of Lafayette county generally.

Thomas Harwood, of Higginsville, and Preston Harwood, of Dover, this county, who went into the confederate service from West Virginia, were members of Captain Thornton's command, while N. M. Nutter of Kansas City was a member of his company.

## Breathitt in State.

Major John B. Breathitt, of Tucson, Ariz., is visiting Missouri friends. He spent several days in St. Louis, making his headquarters at the Southern hotel. Major Breathitt has just returned from a business trip east, and, although he is the Arizona member of the democratic national committee, he says he didn't pay any particular attention to the political situation in the east. Major Breathitt is much interested in gaining the admission of Arizona to statehood, but he is not hopeful so long as congress is controlled by the republican party. Arizona is about 2,000 democratic, and would, of course, if admitted to statehood, elect two democratic United States senators. Delegate Smith twice secured the passage of a statehood bill in the house of representatives, but they both died in the senate. Major Breathitt says the population of the territory is now about 20,000.

Asked regarding a man prominently mentioned for election to the senate, Major Breathitt said: "I regard John Herndon of Tucson, formerly of Howard county, Missouri, as the strongest man in the territory. If he can be induced to accept the office he can, ahead of any other man in the territory, be elected to the senate. Mr. Herndon has made a great name out west. He has built up an extensive and lucrative law practice, and whether he would accept the office is a question. Mark Smith is also strong with the people of Arizona, and has rendered both the territory and his party valuable services."

Major Breathitt will visit Jefferson City, where he resided six years when a member of the Missouri board of railroad and warehouse commissioners. From Jefferson City he will return home via Kansas City, where he will visit friends for a day.

## THE COUNTY FAIR.

Coming Meeting at Higginsville to be Most Interesting.

EXHIBITS WILL LAST FOUR DAYS.

Splendid Races and Big Purses Each Afternoon—Most Liberal Premium List.

The big fall event of Lafayette county will be the fair to be held at Higginsville, September 3, 4, 5, and 6. This fair is not a Higginsville enterprise exclusively, but should be and is the pride of the entire county. Lexington and every other city and town within Lafayette's borders are jointly interested with Higginsville and should go in to make the 1901 fair the banner event in the history of the association. Regardless of the blighting drought that so severely damaged all agricultural growths this summer the promise is made that this time will be good this fall and generally up to the standard. The board of directors is made up of the very best men in the county and each has the welfare of the coming exhibit at heart. Mr. Sam J. Kleinschmidt, the secretary and Mr. C. A. Keith, the assistant and acting secretary, are kept busy arranging for the coming show and there is no doubt but that when the first day of the fair arrives everything will be in readiness for the big week at Higginsville.

Good premiums are offered on agricultural implements, mechanical devices made in Lafayette county, farm and garden products of Lafayette county, home-made canned goods, preserved goods, bread, etc., works of textile and art, drawing, house plants, cut flowers, poultry and pet stock, sheep swine, etc. The county court has offered some special premiums for fine swine. The cattle and horse premiums in the different classes are especially inviting.

Racing will be a prominent and entertained feature each day of the fair and the premiums offered are very liberal. On Tuesday, the first day, there will be a stake race for three-year-olds and under, premium \$300; farmers green trot, premium \$50; pony race fourteen hands high and under, half mile and repeat, premium \$25; mule race, half mile, best two in three, premium \$10.

Second day: Stake race 2:25 class, pace, \$500; stake race trot, 2:45 class, \$400; two-year-old pace, \$200; running race, half mile heats, best two in three, \$25; mule race, half mile, best two in three, \$10.

Third day: Trot, 2:23 class, \$1000; pace, 2:17 class, \$500; running race, half mile heats two best in three, \$100.

Fourth day: Trot, 2:30 class, \$500; pace, 2:35 class, \$400; running race, half mile heats, two best in three, \$40.

It will be at once noted that these premiums are more than liberal and they will draw to Higginsville some of the best horses in the country.

The racing feature of a county fair is always attractive, but of course not so instructive and useful to the observer as the agricultural and stock departments.

An INTELLIGENCER supplement will be found accompanying this issue containing the full premium list. It is instructive. Read it.

Gov. Dockery has offered a reward of \$300 for the apprehension of the murderer of Caselle Wild, who was killed by a negro at Pierce City. Two negroes were lynched at that place this week on account of the excitement incident upon the murder.

Dr. Andrew Kincannon who was a surgeon in Price's army died at Walker, Mo., Wednesday. He was 81 years of age.